New Sugar Mills in U.P.

563. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of licences issued by the Central Government for opening new sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh during the year 1992-93 together with other details in this regard;

(b) what target has been fixed by Government to further open new sugar mills in the State during the year 1993-94;

(c) whether Government have given clearance to open a sugar mill in the Mau village in Meerut district; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) So far, no letter of intent/industrial licence for the establishment of a new sugar factory in Uttar Pradesh has been issued during the current sugar year 1992-93 (Oct.—Sept.).

(b) No State-wise targets for licensing of new sugar mills have been fixed till yet.

(c) and (d) As on 31.3.93, no letter of intent/industrial licence has been granted for setting up of a sugar mill at Village Mau, District Meerut. However, 3 applications have been received for grant of letters of intent/industrial licences for setting up of new sugar factories at Mau-Khas in Meerut district. These would be considered in accordance with the licensing policy guidelines issued vide Press Note dated 8.11.1991.

Short supply of foodgrains

564. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministry of Food has sounded the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs over the projected gap of 5 million tonnes in foodgrains supply during the year 1992-93;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to meet the shortage to tide over the impending crisis;

(c) whether the Central buffer stocks alongwith private trade inventories would come to the rescue; and

(d) whether Government would consider imposition of levy on traders or open market purchases and curtailing imports to the bare minimum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Though a Draft Paper has been drawn up by Ministry of Food regarding aggregate requirement of foodgrains on the basis of nutritional norms, no Note on the subject has, however, been placed before the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

(b) to (d) Government keeps on reviewing the production and availability of foodgrains on a continuous basis and takes appropriate measures as and when required.

Rationalisation of Sugar Factories

565. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main features of the incentive scheme for rationalisation of sugar factories; and

(b) if so what steps are being taken to improve the colour of Indian sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI